

TRACKS OF STORMS IN THE UNITED STATES.

# AUGUST WEATHER

The Tracks of Storms for the Past Twenty Years.

## WHERE THEY ORIGINATE

A Valuable Work Performed by the U. S. Weather Bureau.

TWENTY-FOUR AUGUSTS

Prepared by the U. S. Weather Bureau,

The first vivid impression of any student on approaching the practical use of the weather maps, as they present the seemingly endless forms and combinations of the temperature and pressure lines, is one of confusion. This feeling is also sure to be attended by one of discouragement, and probably the impulse to abandon the task of seeking an underlying pian is more powerful to many persons than the incentive. which depends upon curiosity, to know what it all really means.

The storms of the United States follow, year after year, a series of tracks, not ca-pricious, but related to each other by very well defined laws.

The Storm Line.

The positions of these tracks have been determined carefully for the United States by studies made in the forecast division of the weather bureau, on the long series of maps that have been made during the past twenty years. The line that the central point of a high area or that the central point of a storm makes in passing over the country from west to east is laid down on individual charts, these are collected on a group chart, and from this the average line pursued can be readily described. The accompanying chart shows the general result of a study of tracks of storms in the United States.

of a study of tracks of storms in the United States.

It indicates that, in general, there are two sets of lines running west and east, one set over the northwestern boundary, the lake region and the St. Lawrence valley; the other set over the middle Rocky mountain districts and the gulf states. Each of these is double, one for the highs and one for the lows. Furthermore, there are lines crossing from the main tracks to join them together, showing how storms pass from one to the other. On the map the heavy lines all belong to the tracks for the highs, and the lighter lines to the lows. Let us trace them somewhat in detail. A high reaching the California coast may cross the mountains near Salt Lake, and then pass directly over the belt of the gulf states to the Florida coast; or it may move furcontinent. This movement of the Lighs from the middle Pacific coast to Florida or to the Gulf of St. Lawrence is confined to the summer half of the year—April to September, inclusive.

In Winter.

In the winter months, on the other hand, the source of the highs is different, though they reach the same terminals. In the months, October to March inclusive, many highs enter the United States near the 115th meridian and flow south, along the Rocky Mountain slope, into the southern circuit, and thus reach the south Carolina coast; or else they turn more abruptly eastward and move in the northern circuit over the lakes

course, many instances occur in which it is hard to satisfactorily classify them. It whether in Alberta, on the Pacific coast, in Colorado, Texas, Mexico, or in the West Indian region, they all try, sooner or later, to leave the United States in the neighborhood of New England. This is evidently a sufficient explanation of the very variable and the extremely harsh weather that so peculiarly is the lot of that region. If all

and the extremely harsh weather that so peculiarly is the lot of that region. If all roads lead to Rome, all storms and weather tracks lead to New England.

There are seen on the chart two other systems of lines (1), those marked one day, two days, three days, four days, and (2) that marked wave axis. The former shows the average position of the storms that come in from the northwest in successive days; that is, after one day it will be found on the Rocky mountain slope, in two days near the lower Missouri and Mississippi valleys, in three days near the Appalachians, in four days decidedly over the ocean. The latter shows the middle frontage of the cold wave system as it comes down from the northwest in the winter season.

The August Storms.

The storms of August belong almost entirely to those of the above mentioned that eighty-three storms came into the field of the weather map in the month of August. Of these forty-two originated to the northward of Montana or in the northwestern districts, and all of them moved eastward over the lakes and the valley of the St. Lawrence to the ocean, a few of them dissipating on the way. More than half the August storms begin and move along the northern circuit, like beads on a string, with great regularity. The breadth of the track covered by them is about 400 miles. This accounts for the fact that in the northern states the alternation of warm and cool days takes place with wave-like regularity, while in the southern states the temperature is almost uniform, though warm, week after week.

The next important place for August storms to come from is the state of Colorado, and it is found that in the same ten years twelve storms originated there, moved northeast over the lakes, joined the main branch in that district, and pursued their course eastward to the ocean. These Colorado storms in summer are apt to be accompanied by the warm wave that seems to set in at the eastern base of the Rockies, and to gradually spread over the entire country to the Atlantic.

The third important system of storms are the hurricanes that arise in the trades of the tropics, move westward to the Gulf of Mexico, curve up northward and enter the United States in the lower Mississippi valley, or skirt the coast districts, or else keep off the shore in the neighbor-

form in connection with the high areas as in the low. This makes it much more difficult to satisfactorily forecast the time and place of these small local storms.



AVERAGE POSITION OF THE AUGUST STORM TRACKS.

which the movement will take place. Where Storms Originate. strictly dependent for their life upon the highs, being in a word only the natural means of the disintegration of the highs. means of the disintegration of the highs, and the raising of the air by force against gravitation, from lower to higher levels in the atmosphere. The highs have two main places of entry into the United States, but the lows have at least six places of generation, or entrance upon our territory. First, a majority of our storms originate in the region north of Montana, in Alberta, and move eastward, while some make a loon move eastward, while some make a loop move eastward, while some make a 1909 southward over the mountain slope before regaining the northern circuit; second, a number appear on the North Pacific coast and eventually disappear over the Gulf of St. Lawrence, if they live so long; third, a generous number from near Colorado, apparently influenced by the very high mountainous elevations of that district, and tainous elevations of that district, and usually join the northern circuit near Lake Superior; fourth, the lower lands of Texas, catching the Gulf winds and moistures, generate a few storms each year, and these move northeastward over the central vai-

The Jumping-Off Place.

to Newfoundland. The chief difficulty in the art of forecasting is to decide from the current lines on a map which of these paths will be pursued, and then the probable rate mountain region during the 21st and 23d.

and gradually move eastward from there. On the other hand a high area settling On the other hand a high area setting over the south Atlantic and gulf states has the effect of charging the stagnant air with heat, as if the eastward circula-tion in the upper air was quite suspended. An August Record.

The following is the record for Washing ton, D. C., for twenty-four years: Mean or normal temperature, 74 degrees. Warmest month, 1892, average, 79 degrees Coldest month, 1894, average 72 degrees, Highest temperature, August 13, 1881, 101 Lowest temperature, August 24, 1890, 49

Average number of days with .01 of an inch or more, 12.
Greatest monthly precipitation, 1875, 12.93

Least monthly precipitation, 1892, 0.85 Greatest amount of precipitation recorded

as the Venetians. At present there are

more than 1,000 workmen in the Island of Murano alone who are engaged in bead

middle is not far from the furnaces in which the glass is melted. The first process

And the children keep an exact count

too, so that the manufacturer knows just

how many beads he is sending out. The

Interesting Bieyele Statistics.

One of the most prominent bicycle man-

ufacturers in the United States says that

there can be no truth in the reports cir-

culated about a syndicate which is said

to be preparing to make 400,000 wheels

price. He insists that money cannot pro-

vide either the material or the men for such an addition to the output of bicycles from the factories already established. The limit of possible production he places at about 800,000 blcycles. It is safe to say that the figures given

of these \$00,000 wheels to be made for the season of 1896 will pay an average price not lower than \$60 or \$15. The average may be higher. If the figure which ought

to be taken is \$62.50, then the total outlay

means a dollar for every person in the country old enough to ride a blcycle and not too old to use a wheel. It is more than the combined incomes of all the Van-

derbilts, all the Astors and all the Gould family, and the great bulk of the money

paid for bicycles will come out of the pockets of the poor and people of moder

nte means. Such expenditures for a luxury, and the

bicycle is certainly not a necessity, shows most strikingly bow comfortable the great

most strikingly now comfortable the great bulk of the American people are. It is nonsense to say that the wheels bought will be an investment to save car fare. It is not often that a wheelman makes his bicycle more than pay for the repairs and incidental expenses which it entails, and as a rule the investment lasts for not more than two or three seasons. A pov-

and as a rule the investment lasts for not more than two or three seasons. A poverty stricken people such as the Americans are said to be by demagogues could no more pay \$50,000,000 for \$00,000 blcycles in one year than they could make tours to Europe for pleasure. The prospects of the blcycle market are proof of general prosperity. They show how well the nation is getting on, and they leave no room for the stale charge that the profits of industry go only to a small number of rich people.

If the army of cyclists continues to in

crease, the calamity howlers will take some bad headers when they tell crowds of hearty and cheerful owners of good beycles that they are all a race of pov-erty stricken and spiritless victims of op-

Fighting One Fire for Forty Years.

The commissioners appointed by the local

government to inquire into the "history,

causes and effect" of the coal mine fires of Pictou county have just finished taking

evidence. The work of the commission was

directed mainly to an investigation of the

condition of the Foord pit. This mine has

osen on fire in one place or another since the

been on fire in one place or another since the 50's, and it is burning yet. Explosion after explosion has occurred, and many lives have been lost. When fire broke out in one place the miners resorted to another, sinking a new shaft. To avoid the fire on an upper level, a shaft was sunk and coal taken out on the level immediately below the fire. Soon the fire came through and

taken out on the level immediately below the fire. Soon the fire came through, and again the miners were driven out. Nothing that the owners could do availed to drive out the fire, and the splendid mine has been practically abandoned, though a little coal has been taken out on a level below a part that is on fire. The object of the commission is to learn whether something cannot be done to save 50 valuable a property as the Foord pit.

Two Keys to Success.

A New Way.

was at Mrs. Watkins' recentler

From the Shoe Trade Journal.

From the Halifax Herald.

for bicycles next year by the people the United States will be \$50,000,000. T

From the Cleveland Leader.

in any twenty-four consecutive hours, August 29, 1875, 2.84 inches.

Average number of clear days, 10.

Average number of partly cloudy days, 13.

Average number of cloudy days, 8.

Prevailing winds have been from the outh.
The highest velocity, August 5, 1878, 53

the Chinese today do the work just as their forefathers did, and the styles are exactly After the Chinese, no people are so expert

parts of the world have all learned the secret of the craft in Venice.

For bead making there must be a rope walk connected with the glass factory. A rope walk is a narrow, straight gallery about 150 feet long, and so situated that the middle is not for from the furnaces in

Then came a party of four, the girls nat-less and enthuslastic, interspersing their exclamations of "Isn't this fust too love-ly?" and "It's the next thing to flying," with screams when the blcycle wobbled, and frantic appeals to be taken off at an extra lurch "Don't be afraid, I've got hold of you."

middle is not far from the furnaces in which the glass is melted. The first process is the making of ordinary tubes like those used in almost every drug store. Two brawny workmen selze a huge wedge of the "metal," as the molten glass is called, between their blow pipes, and after it has been blown hollow they gradually stretch it out into a long, swinging rope.

When it has been reduced to the proper size for the beads about to be made, it is laid away to cool, after which a workman comes along and in a wonderfully deft manner chips it into fragments of uniform size. Often for small beads these are not much larger than a grain of wheat, but so carefully is the work done that little cylinders are rarely cracked or spoiled.

The pieces are now picked up by boys and placed in a tub with sand and ashes and stirred up carefully. In this way the holes in the embryo beads are stuffed full, thus preventing the danger of the sides flattening together when heat is applied.

They are next placed in a skillet—just such a one as the housewife uses in frying eggs—and stirred over a very hot fire until the ragged edges where the pieces were broken from the tube are rounded, giving the bead a globular form. As soon as they are cool the ashes and sand are shaken out of them in a sieve, and then they are separated according to size by other sieves. They are taken next to a long table around which a whole flock of boys and girls are sitting. If the glass is colored, as it often is, the piles of beads on the table suggest a rainbow, with every hue, from jet black, through red, green, yellow and thread, and by long practice the beads are placed on breath. "Don't act like such a fool, I'm not going to let you go over."

"It's my turn now" is the next sound from the middle of the street, and an exchange is made whereby a touseled but triumphant rider gives place to an eager aspirant, and after repeated adjurations to "fix my skirt" and "tell me if I'm all right," during which the cavaller stands in the attitude of Ajax defying the lightning, with a firm grip on the bicycle, these seekers after happiness and heat disappear.

Society may not learn to ride in just this way, but if it don't it misses lots of fun. Each child has a needle and thread, and by long practice the beads are placed on strings with almost inconceivable swiftness.

"I do not think," remaked the wife of a prominent official recently, in talking over some of the events of last winter, "that I ever had my democratic principles flung in my face with such force as at that last reception at the White House during the past

season.

"You remember?" she went on to say,
"that the President was particularly anxious that the reception to the general public should not fall short in any respect of
its predecessors, and every one who was to
assit in receiving had a quiet suggestion to
that effect made to hier. I wore one of my
newest and pretitiest gowns and found, as
I always do, great pleasure in seeing and
greeting the never-ending throng of faces.
"Finally among the crowd there loomed
up down by the door of the red room a
countenance which I felt sure I had seen
hefore, and under very different circumstances. It came hearer and nearer, with
the ever-increasing impression of distinct
acquaintanceship, until, as she paused to acquaintancesing impression of distinct acquaintancesing, until, as she paused to take the President's hand, it came upon me with a flash, it's my cook."

"She passed by the glories of the President and Mrs. Cleveland without blinking, but when she saw me she threw a glance over her shoulder, meditating retreat. But that was impossible: so with a deprecating was impossible; so with a deprecating glance, as though applegizing for the awk-

It is safe to say that the figures given by this authority are within the truth. The indications are that the manufacturers of bicycles and parts of bicycles will outdo their fondest anticipations before midsummer next year. Under the pressure of an almost unlimited demand, there is no telling at this time what may be accomplished. The one thing sure is that the supply of bicycles will not much longer lag behind the requirements of the people who want to buy wheels. If the manufacturers that now make all the tubing and other material used cannot furnish as much as is wanted, it will not be long before more concerns are in the business The question under discussion on the front steps of an uptown house the other evening was: "What must a girl do when she sees a friend coming out of a saloon? Shall she speak to him or pass him by as though she knew him not?" One girl argued that this hot weather a man should have the benefit of the doubt, and it should be assumed that he had just gone in for a cooling draught.

"But why not go to a drug store and drink soda water?" and a young innocent on the top step settled that.

> seeing him as we passed; but as I drew nearer, his companion, who I had not seen nearer, its companion, who I had not seen before, took his hat off with a most audacious flourish, and, as he was a man I could not pretend not to know, there I was speaking to two reprobates, instead of snubbing one."

most of the members of the group had made a study during the past winter. "The best thing I have read on the subject," said Thinker No. 1, "is Kant."
"I guess you must mean 'Don't' " mur mured a brown-eyed lassie, who was evi

There was an indignation meeting held

man for the past three years to become a member of our beneficial association, which

would have guaranteed to his widow \$300 for actual needs the very day of his "That's so," spoke up another, "and be-

association received several new members, who, up to that time, had expected to live

A fashionable woman who has a handsome home on K street advertised for a competent housemaid a few weeks ago. Among the many who applied in answer was only one who was at all promising in looks. She was a small and very black girl. After examining her references and questioning her the lady concluded she wanted her. She asked the maid's name.

It was a very hot Sunday morning, and an old gentleman, a wealthy member and pewholder in an uptown Catholic church, thought he would go to mass in another

She stepped at the pew door and he galsne stepped at the pew door and he gal-lantly epened the door and stepped out to allow her to enter.

The good lady with a plous air bent her knee and entered the pew, promptly clos-ing the door behind her.

The old gentleman, semewhat abashed

for a moment, recovered himself quickly. He quietly reached over and got his hat. had not yet begun, so he bent ove

tone:
"Madame, you can keep me out of you pew, but you can't keep me out of heaven."

And with a bow he walked to a back seat
and went through his devotions, utterly

There is a lawyer in town who had som extra fine whisky sent him by a New York club man. One day the cook, an old family servant

was caught in a oad rain storm, and got a was caught in a oad rain storm, and got a drenching.

The lawyér's wife, with her natural kindliness, went to the last bottle of whisky and poured out a modest drink.

The old colored woman eyed it dubiously.

"Deed, Miss Mary, if you want dat er drink to keep me from takin' cold, you better fill it up."

"The lady coursed some more in and know."

ter fill it up."

The lady poured some more in, and knowing the old woman was not opposed to taking a "wee nippee," told her she had never drunk such fine stuff in her life, and she had better drink it slowly.

The woman took it. In this case, instead or going down like velvet, it went down like water. Not even a shiver accompanied it.

Then the old woman looked sympathiz Then the old woman looked sympathizingly at her young mistress.
"Lor', Miss Mary, you don't call dat fine whisky. George dun got some at home dat's lots finer'n dat. Why, when I takes it, it burns my throat and then my stomach, and then it seems to burn all over, till I thinks I bus' wide open. Dat's fine whisky:" and a convulsive shiver went through the old woman at the recollection of it. of it.

She'll get no more five-dollar-a-gallon whisky in that house.

A young weman well known made an after-dinner call on a young married couple

the other evening. It proved to be a most novel visit.

The servant said they were "upstairs

just come right up."

There being nothing unusual in their being upstairs, she promptly ascended. being upstairs, she promptly ascended. The servant took her up and up. When they reached the attic stairs the young woman began to be frightened and thought the servant had turned lunatic. But she smilingly volunteered the information that they were on the roof. The young visitor stepped out, and a novel sight met her eye. It was an ordinary level tin roof, but

stepped out, and a novel sight met her eye. It was an ordinary level tin roof, but a pretty wooden fence had been put all around it. In one corner was a mass of growing flowers, with the awning drawn back from them. Pretty matting rugs were spread under each easy chair. A wicker table had a pitcher of cool lemonade, a plate of dainty cake, a box of Huyler's gardy and a box of cirgars. er's candy and a box of cigars.

There were her friends, each in a favorite

There were her friends, each in a tavorite easy chair, with books and papers.

Indeed, it was an ideal porch scene, and very much cooler than the average porch. The young wife says she just had to fix up some comfortable spot out of doors, as she didn't propose to go off to the mountains and leave her husband behind.

One of the returning signs of good times, it is to deal in statistics of commerce and trade, was the increased trade in to bacco. Tobacco, he says, always shows the first sign of returning prosperity. This may be accounted for in the fact that laployment economize by using less tobac co or giving it up entirely, and resume again when they secure employment or se-cure increased wages. The man who ob-serves this tobacco sign says that there are good times approaching abroad as well as in this country.

Amateur photography has got to be a great fad now, and it is no uncommor thing to find that about every tenth man and twentieth woman indulges in the amusement to more or less extent. Quite a number of army and navy officers are a number of army and navy officers are more or less dabblers in the picture-taking art. At least one of the engineer officers of the army illustrates his annual report of river and harbor improvements by use of the camera, and he shows, more-ever, that he has become an accomplished artist. Pictures by naval officers of the scenes they visit are not uncommon, and several officers have a pictorial history of their different voyages.

His Modest Description of a Scene "In view of the fact that you have smelled the smoke of battle" said a Star writer to a retired army officer, proffering him a cigar, "you won't be afraid of this killing you." ' he said, as he took it, "so long as it

isn't a cigarette I can stand it. But. as I was saying," he went on, "the oddest specimen of a soldier I ever knew was Private Jack Scudder, a member of my company when I was a lieutenant during the firs year of the war. Jack was a stubby little chap, illiterate and satisfied with it, and slouchy and lazy and glad of it. We were doing Virginia in those days and was frequent, and I noticed that wheneve there was a skirmish anywhere in sight Jack was likely to be there. One day after we had been at it for several months about twenty of our men were caught on a rocky knoll by a battalion of cavalry from the other side and there was shooting at once, but our men couldn't stand the odds, and out of their hiding place they came and away they went, all except Jack; he remained hid up among the boulders and kept right on with his fireworks. The caveler was couldn't get up to him without discounter that the standard of the st kept right on with his fireworks. The cavalrymen couldn't get up to him without dismounting, and he banged away with such fatal results at one or two who tried it that they backed away to get a new start, Jack in the meantime dropping one or two more of them and firing so fast that they couldn't tell just how many men might be up there to meet them in case they made an assault. While they were dallying about it a regiment of bluecoats hove in sight and the battalion of grays skedaddled, and Jack came down to meet his rescuers. Everybody had seen the fight, and when Jack got back to camp be was the hero of the hour, and I was for making a corporal of him. I called him up to have a little private talk with him before taking active measures in his behalf and he routed me worse than he is behalf and he routed me worse than he

had routed the enemy.

"'Are you aware, Jack,' said I, 'that you did a very brave thing in that fight this afternocn

'What fight, lieut'nant?' he responded. "'Don't be so modest,' sald I; 'you know what fight.'

what fight."

"'You mean the half fight, don't you, lieut'nant? Them rebs didn't fight. Only the blueccats fit."

"Well, none of them did, but you."

"Is that so? I wuzh't noticin'."

"'Didn't you know they all ran away and left you, there alone?" left you there alone?"
"'Well, I noticed I felt kinder lonesome."

"Well, I noticed I felt kinder ionesome.
"That's all right, Jack, said I, getting
to the point. 'You did as brave an act as a
soldier could do, and I want you to be rewarded for it.'
"What did I do, lieut'nant?"
"You didn't you away ag the others did

"You didn't run away, as the others did, when you would have been perfectly justi-ied in doing exactly as they did.'
"Jack chuckled as though something

"Jack chuckled as though something funny had occurred to him.
"Why, lieut'nant,' he said, 'that wasn't bravery. There wuz a lot of huckleberries up there jist in reach of where I wuz layin, among the rocks in the sunshine, and I wuz jist too dern lazy to run.'
"I knew there wasn't much chance after that to do anything with Jack," said the officer in conclusion, "but I proposed corporalship to him as a slight token of esteem, and it seemed to disturb him and hurt his feelings so that I gave it up as a bad job."

Here is such a pretty fancy for a jacket bodice. The bodice material is of pale green changeable silk, the kind that has a vellowish sheen. Over this is laid fine sheet embroidered mull, in the shape of an epauletted cape, under-arm pieces and a band of insertion down the back and front. The lower part of the silk sleeves is striped with the insertion. You can see for your self that it is most lovely, and the ruffle about the bottom of the waist is the thing about the bottom of the waist is the thing that gives it an up-to-date appearance. You krow that all the new blouses are to have tails. Awfully unbecoming to a stout fig-ure, but really the thin girl must have her

#### Took the Paper Regularly. from the Portland (Mc.) Argus.

One of our popular physicians, who has and considerable trouble about getting his Argus mornings, and who is obliged in consequence to procure it at The Argus office nimself, rather than run nis chances of naving it stolen from his house, said that his door bell rang early the other morning, evidently by the habitual rounder, as he coolly asked the servant girl, who answered the ring, for the paper, as he "did not see it lying around anywhere."

#### FIRST-CLASS OR NOTHING.

How an Irate Soldier Refused an Of-fice From Secretary Stanton. One of the officials of the Post Office Department was at the breaking out of the rebellion a typo in a little country news paper office in Vermont, the home town of ex-Postmaster General, afterward Senator, Jacob Collamer. He left his stick on his case and carried a musket in the first regiment which went from that state in the spring of 1861, and after three years and more of continuous service, was badly wounded in May, 1864, and brought to Stanwounded in May, 1864, and brought to Stanton Hospital in this city. Two or three months later, when he had become able to walk around, he met Senator Collamer on Pennsylvania avenue one morning and said that as he had served over three years as a soldier, he thought he would like a clerkship in the War Department, that office being the Mecca toward which the eyes of all enlisted men clerically inclined were directed.

"I am going up to see Secretary Stanton now," said the Senator, "and think I can arrange matters for you without difficulty." The civil service commission was not a stumbling block in the way of persons anxious to serve their country in the departmental line in those days, so the Senator and the soldier visited the great war Secretary. Past a long line of brigadiers, colonels and majors waiting for an audience Senator Collamer led his printersoldier, and reaching the august presence, said:

said:
"Mr. Secretary, this is my young friend, Mr. Blank, who was a good printer up in my Green mountain home, has been a good soldier since the commencement of the war and I know he will make a first-rate department clerk. I want him to have a good place-not a second or third-rate way. good place—not a second or third-rate ap-pointment."

pointment."

The Secretary smiled good-naturedly—he could afford to be good-natured, for Collamer was then a presidential possibility—and thought he might be able to find just the kind of place needed.

"Come here at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, Mr. Blank, and we'll see what can te found." he said

ing, Mr. Blank, and we'll see what can be found," he said.

The soldier walked out with a light heart, and waited impatiently about like that other little lamb, making his appearance at the Secretary's door the next morning promptly as the clock in the hall struck 10. Nothing had been found, however, by the Secretary, and the waiting son of Mars was told to call at the same hour the next morning. He did so, and continued to call every morning for a week. Finally, disheartened, ill-humored and tired, he called one morning and found Maj. Breck, the chief clerk, standing at the Secretary's desk.

desk.

"Anything turned up yet, major?" queried the soldier, in a tone that reflected his expectation of the usual disappointment, and he was agreeably surprised at receiving from the major a document inclosed in one of the official envelopes of the department. Stepping to a window, he opened the papers and found he had been appointed to a second-class clerkship in the office of the adjutant general. adjutant general.

adjutant general.

Long waiting and continued disappointments had made him snappish and irritable, and the thought that flashed through his mind was: "If Senator Collamer's influence isn't sufficient to get me a first-class clerkship, I won't have anything," and the pa-pers were torn into shreds in a flash and thrown spitefully into the waste basket, the irate soldier stalking out of the roon leaving behind him a very much astonishe

leaving behind him a very much astonished chief clerk.

Long years afterward, while working in a printing office in one of the western states, the printer stumbled across the information that a second-class clerkship in the departments was two hundred dollars better than a first-class, and the large-sized, long-drawn sigh which gurgled up from the region of his boots ended with an explosive beginning with a large D, as the handful of types he was distributing squabbled in the space box.

# WHAT HE WAS THERE FOR.

In Enthusiastic Soldier Who Wanted

"When the war was on," remarked an ex-Congressman to a Star writer, "and I felt pretty sure that it was to be no ninetyday affair, I went to work to recruit a company and see what I could do toward settling it. I lived in a community whose men were as willing to take a few risks in that line as myself, and it wasn't any trouble at all to pick up enough men for a company. I had any number of enthusiasts in my command, but one boy about sixteen years old had more enthusiasm than all of us combined. He wasn't very handsome and he wasn't very good, bu he was full of hurrah, and that was what was wanted, because I felt that hard times were before us and all the surplus effervescence would be worked off as soon as

we got into the field. This particular young fellow I thought would be about the first to cave, for he talked like a man that was more mouth than sand, and I can't say that I had much confidence in him, except for temporary purposes. Well, I got the company to-gether in short order and it wasn't very purposes. Well, I got the company to-getter in short order and it wasn't very long until we were ordered to the front with the regiment. One night, shortly af-ter we got into fighting country, we came within range of the Johnnies They were somewhere on the other side of a small stream, with a bridge over it, and my com-

somewhere on the other side of a small stream, with a bridge over it, and my company was sent forward to protect the bridge. As we moved forward there was no sign of the enemy, and we didn't expect him for a mile, at least, when suddenly we sprung him in a clump of woods not 300 yards in front of us.

I threw my men into line of battle at once to storm the woods, for it was not big, and I knew that not any more men than I had could be hidden there, and I was at that time ready to fight four or five times as many men as I might meet. I waited, however, for some sign before making a move, when all at once a long line of light shot out from the woods and the bullets spattered all around us and two or three of my men went down. This had a cooling effect, and I concluded it was not my time yet to charge, so I let the boys return the fire. They did it with a will, too, and in a very short time the woods were still and the senemy had set out. I was a many the senemy had set out. ire. They did it with a will, too, and in a very short time the woods were still and the enemy had got out. I ordered my men to cease firing, and the order was obeyed, except as to one man down about the middle of the line, who kept banging away, regardless. I spotted him and made a rush cown his way.

"Here, you blamed fool," I exclaimed, what do you mean by firing? Tiddle.

"Here, you biamed 1001, I exclaimed, 
what do you mean by firing? Didn't you 
hear the order to cease?"

"It was my young enthusiast about five 
paces in advance of the line, and he banged away again and dropped his gun.

"What do you mean by that?" I said, 
setting hot.

"What do you mean by that?" I said, getting hot.

"Excuse me, cap.," he responded with the easy familiarity of the volunteer, but I j'ined this army to put down the rebellion, and, dod bob my skin, if I ain't goin' to do it as scon as I can, and right here, too, if you give me half a chance,' and he pulled up his gun and I had to threaten him with my sword before I could quiet him. It wasn't a bravado, either," concluded the captain, "for the first man to fall had dropped dead at his feet in the rank in front of him, and what is more, it hadn't been an hour before the scrap that the man killed and the young fellow had had a squabble for the place in the front rank held by the man who went down."

## FADS IN MANNERS.

Men Do Not Offer Their Arm to Dinner Partners. A right pretty custom has been revive

abroad, a Star writer is informed, which will probably strike Americans hard, just as did the boll under the arm business Men no longer offer their arm to ladies in handing them from dining to drawing room but grasp the tips of the fair partner's fingers and lead them away, just as they used to do in the time of the Louises. Of course, it is a fad that will make men appear extremely awkward unless they prac tice it a good deal, but perhaps that will

tice it a good deal, but perhaps that will just suit the women; they will seem that much more graceful by contrast.

Another innovation that will cause heartburn among those women who can never hope to do it nicely, to say nothing of gracefully, is the "curtsey." It is really an accomplished fact in the smart set abroad, but it does not seem possible that it can be adopted here without loss of dignity. At one of the state receptions at the White House last season a youthful bud who had been "abroad" and was much imbued with old world fads, essayed the "curtsey" as she passed down the line, but those who were looking on laughed outright, and those who were in the crowding, pushing, scrambling line behind her walked on her gown so when she got to Mrs. Carlisle in the line she gave it up, and bowed like a well-bred American girl to the others.

### ABOUT SEA SERPENTS.

Dr. Theodore Gill Doubts Whether "Is there such a thing as a sea serpent?" Yes, indeed, there are many species of sea

This was the answer given yesterday by Dr. Thecdore Gill, the eminent naturalist of the Smithsonian, to the question above repeated. Dr. Gill is known in scientific circles as the highest American authority on fishes and other creatures of the sea He is quoted in all of the world's standard works on ichthyology, besides having written numerous volumes himself devoted to that particular branch of his life-study. He has given much attention to sea ser-pents, and has revealed many interesting facts concerning them in his writings and

members of the Cosmos Club that it was a large python, or rock snake. There are 1.0 monster sea serpents. There is no animal of gigantic size now living in the see which could be properly classed as a serpent or even a reptile. There is, however, an abundance of sea serpents in the eastern seas and along the Pacific coasts of tropical America.

"There are enough of them in these parts to annoy and threaten the lives of sailors who frequent the waters, but they are very small creatures, as compared with the seaserpents which we read about in popular literature. Most of these are known to scientists as hydridae, which means seasnakes, or, if you like, sea serpents. They include numerous families inhabiting the salt water estuaries and tidal streams of the Indian and Pacific oceans, from Madagascar to the Isthmus of Panama."
"Some of them are as much as twelve feet long. They are very poisonous, and I have heard that a sailor, once bitten by one, died within an hour and a quarter. They have conspicuously small heads and bodies, somewhat like the land snakes, but particularly thick in their hind half, and very

died within an hour and a quarter. They have conspicuously small heads and bodies, somewhat like the land snakes, but particularly thick in their hind half, and very compressed and flat, or oar-like, at the tail. They live entirely in the sea, and when thrown upon shore are helpless and almost blind. These sea serpents are frequently seen in great numbers swimming close to the surface of the water.

"But is it not possible that there are glant animals of this kind roving the seas which have not yet been found by scientists?"

"Yes, there is a possibility, but no probability, that such an animal still exists. It is possible that a glant selachian may be found related to the frilled shark of Japan. This would have an eel-like body, fin back of the head, and if very long would agree to some extent with descriptions of the 'great sea serpent.' As a matter of fact, there was discovered not many years ago a small snake-like shark, resembling the gray sharks found in the Pacific. This would have an eel-like tail and a fin extending from the back, behind the head.

"Then there are also the ancient zeuglodonts, with their long tails and horizontal caudal fins, like those of the whales. It may be that one of these with a long neck still exists, having outlived his ancestors of millions of years ago. During the geological period known as the eocene tertiary, which was many millions of years back, there were living in the seas zeuglodonts somewhat resembling serpents. Some 'of these were perhaps nearly forty or fifty feet long, but none of them could swim in the water with vertical undulations or be adorned with the mane, both of which are associated with the mane possibilities.'

thirty feet in length. It is frequently the case that they travel in pairs, one following the other. The front portion of one and the hind portion of the other of these appearing above the water at the same time would be sufficient to scare any unsuspecting observer. I remember hearing Prof. Simon Newcomb, our eminent astronomer, telling how he once thought he saw the veritable sea serpent off Cape Ann. But the supposed monster resolved itself into a

## CURE FOR WILD OATS.

It Worked in One Case and It Might in Others. The Star man was talking to an acquaint-

ance the other day, when a young fellow, who has blown in the bulk of a fortune on heavily loaded to be comfortable.

"Yes, and it's a pity about him, too Nice fellow, and with good abilities, if he would only use them as he should." "Very true, and he isn't too old to be

"I can't say I've got a cure, but I know He didn't go right ahead, and The Star

"Well, I needn't tell you just that, but I'll tell you what it is. I happen to know a rich man with a relative who is just such another chap as the one we have been talking about, only more so. That is to say, he was that kind, but isn't now. He was quick and bright, and had a good nose for business, but he would spend money, and rot make any effort to acquire it. He had about \$50,000 left to him when he was twenty one and he went through it like a had about \$50,000 left to him when he was twenty-one, and he went through it like a train through a tunnel, and then fell back on his uncle, or step-uncle rather, and the old man had him on his hands. He be-came utterly worthless, and was drunk and in trouble all the time. One day, however, he had a sudden attack of common sense, and he braced up and stayed that way for a month.

case he shouldn't have the full amount in his clothes just at that time."

"Where did you say the young man lived?" inquired The Star man.

"I didn't say Washington," he replied.

From Life. Five-dollar bills and ten-dollar bills Are things I don't often see; But four-dollar bills and nine-dollar bills Are presented quite often to me.



### HOW BEADS ARE MADE. An Interesting Process in Which the Chinese Are Expert. From the Chleago Record. Chinese are the oldest bead makers in the world. They have made beads so long that even their historians do not mention a time when the industry was not ancient. And

is seen that wherever the storms may arise,

The August Storms.

types, the Alberta, the Colorado and the West Indian. In ten years it was noted that eighty-three storms came into the field of the weather map in the month of

sets of lines running west and east, one set over the northwestern boundary, the lake region and the St. Lawrence valley; the other set over the middle Rocky mountain districts and the gulf states. Each of these is double, one for the highs and one for the lows. Furthermore, there are lines crossing from the main tracks to join them together, showing how storms pass from one to the other. On the map the heavy lines all belong to the tracks for the highs, and the lighter lines to the lows. Let us trace them somewhat in detail. A high reaching the California coast may cross the mountains near Salt Lake, and then pass directly over the belt of the gulf states, east and west, whence comes the chief uncertainty in forecasting their approach to the coast of the United States. Eventually they advance to the same point of departure, the grid of St. Lawrence and Newfoundland.

Only seventeen other storms were observed in the ten years, 1884 to 1893, inclusive, scattered over the country in a very desultory way. August storms travel at the rate of sixteen to twenty-six miles per hour or about 500 miles a day. The question of the rainfall attending these to the lower track as the southern circuit, and the upper as the northern circuit, and the lower track as the southern circuit, and the upper as the northern circuit, and the upper as the northern circuit. These are located where they are by the laws of general circulation of the atmosphere and configuration of the North American continent. This movement of the Lighs from the middle Rocky const to Elorida to the Lighs from the middle Rockie coast to Elorida to the Lighs from the middle Rockie coast to Elorida to the Lighs the middle Rockie coast to Elorida to the Lighs the middle Rockie coast to Elorida to the Lighs the middle Rockie coast to Elorida to the Lighs to the Lighs and the configuration of the North American continent. This movement of the Eighs to the Lighs are all the coast of the same point of departure, the guiff of St. Lawrence and Newfoundiand.

Only seve

The Hurricane Season.

The months of August, September and October make up the hurricane season. because these storms are almost unknown outside these months. Of the twelve hurricanes referred to, five first appeared near the Windward Islands. Two of these recurved east of the Florida peninsula, two disappeared over the Gulf of Mexico, and one crossed Cuba and the Gulf of Mexico in 1886, and upon arriving on the



The storms or low centers of pressure are move northeastward over the central val-leys to the lower lake region, whence they proceed down the St. Lawrence valley; fifth, a few storms come in from the ex-treme west of the Gulf of Mexico, join the southern circuit, near the mouth of the Mississippi river, whence they usually pro-ceed near the Gulf coast and then near the Atlantic coast to join the great storms to the north and east of New England; sixth, the West Indian storms, or hurricanes. the West Indian storms, or hurricanes, come in from the southeast near the 25th parallel, recurve northward and hug the Atlantic coast line to Nova Scotia.

These are the main tracks, though, of inches.

Two cyclones apparently originated near the Bahamas, one of which recurved northeastward off the North Carolina coast eastward off the North Carolina coast, and the other reached the Louisiana coast and moved thence northeastward over the lower Mississippi and Ohio valleys, New England, and Nova Scotia. The remaining five cyclones appeared north of the West Indies and east of the 70th meridian. One of these reached the North Carolina coast August 23, 1893, skirted the middle Atlantic coast, and crossed New England. Another was the destructive storm which devastated the south Atlantic coast on devastated the south Atlantic coast on the 27th and 28th of August, 1893. The mechanism of these destructive storms is mechanism of these destructive storms is very interesting, but an account of it must be deferred till another month. The hot waves of August come from two sources. They originate in a mass of heated air on the Rocky mountain plains

Nothing will draw trade through your doors quicker than attractive advertise nents and a well-kept, clean and attractive As a Bicycle Agent. From the Slate. "Who is the best bicycle agent in our

"I don't know, but I think Dr. Pellet must be. He recommends bicycle riding to all his patients." From Harper's Bazar. "I don't understand this bill, Mr. Katerer I do not remember ordering any ice cream

Average precipitation for August, 4.44 inches. from you.' ma'am. You and your daughters ate a quart. The Watkinses have been unable to pay the bill and I'm trying to collect it of those who really got the stuff."

THINGS HEARD AND SEEN unconscious that he had startled the whole front part of the church.

"Keep a pushin' and a shovin'," is the motto of the knight of the present day who wishes to show his lady honor. Instead of buying ice cream soda for her he calls in the evenings armed with the hire of a bleycle for an hour and shows his prowess and devotion by holding his best

girl on the machine and at the same time propelling it from behind. A few nights ago the moonlight showed a procession of these couples; the girls frantically clutching the handle bar, the machines wobbling in a manner suggestive of "jag," while the perspiring lovers whispered words of encouragement. One girl, whose sailor hat had drifted off over her left ear, screamed out at intervals: "I can't keep my feet on the pedals, they slip off every time the wheel goes round."
"Nothing the matter with the feet," re-

off every time the wheel goes round."

"Nothing the matter with the feet," remarked a passer-by.

Next came the girl in the pink shirt waist, whose cavalier's attire showed him to be a wheelman, indeed, for his knicker-bcckers, cap and jacket were all the most correct shape, and, if the supporting calves left something to be desired, it was not the fault of sir knight.

"It will be so sweet when we can take a spin together on lovely nights, like this," she twittered, just as she got within earshot, and her enamored companion let go the machine for a second to give her hand a responsive squeeze, and over the trio went in the gutter. When they picked themselves up the Pink Shirt Waist decided "she didn't think she wanted to ride any more tonight," and they passed around the corner, both shoving.

Then there came by the long-suffering youth whose sweetheart's mother "wanted to try it," and so, in spite of her gray hairs, she had hoisted herself into position, and with a do-or-die expression on her face, was being pushed gingerly along by her victim, while her daughter walked gloomily alongside, as though she were conscious of losing both lover and ride through "ma's giddiness."

Then came a party of four, the girls hat-

Then came a party of four, the girls hat-

replies one youth, and the other who is pos-sibly surer of his fate, says under his breath. 'Don't act like such a fool, I'm

ward position, she hurried past, to my great amusement, the unfettered exponent of liberty, equality and brotherhood." The question under discussion on the

as much as is wanted, it will not be long before more concerns are in the business with ample resources of all kinds. Capital and enterprise will not keep out of so tempting a field. Inside of two years there will be plenty of bicycles to meet every demand, and the price of a good wheel will be much lower than it is now.

But at the figures given by the manufacturer who limits the production of wheels next year at 800,000, think what that means in the way of expenditure by the men and women who will buy and use them! It is safe to say that the riders of these 800,000 wheels to be made for the on the top step settled that.

"Well. I thought I had settled in my "Well, I thought I had settled in my mind that men oughtn't be spoken to under such circumstances," said the girl in white organdie; "but the other day I was forced to break through my rule. I was going down the avenue, and as I turned the corner I saw a man I krew very slightly coming out from behind a swing door, with an expression of profound comfert on his face. As I had only met him once or twice, I thought I would have no difficulty in not seeing him as we passed; but as I drew

> Soda water for the porchful was the re-sult of this confession. Another porch party a few evening later was trying to find relief from the stifling heat by an animated comparison of notes on German philosophical thought, of which

dently more interested in wondering why Charlie had not put in an appearance that

in one of the downtown departments not long ago, when the clerks of a certain division were called on to help pay the funeral expenses of a former co-worker. "I wouldn't mind chipping in so much," said one kicker, "if I had not begged that

sides that he got \$2,000 a year, and I think a man with such a salary should be ashamed to depend upon 25-cent contribu-tions for decent burial."

The result of this outburst was that the

"Mary," she promptly replied.
"But Mary is my cook's name, and I'll have to call you something else," said the mistress.
"Very well, then use my full name; it is Virgin Mary."
They compromised on "Virginia."

thought ne would go to mass in another church nearer home.

Arriving early, he walked down the middle alsle to a pew that was open and seated himself comfortably.

While gazing around the edifice and thinking there was more of the homelike feeling than in his own a lady came down the siele.

and said in an audible but very courteous

serpents well known to naturalists."

ectures.

"So you place credence in the many statements lately come to hand concerning the appearance of the monster sea serpent in Long Island sound?"

"I do not by any means. As soon as I read the accounts of the large snake found at Blackwell's Island I told several fellow members of the Cosmos Club that it was a large nython or sook make.

cal America.
"There are enough of them in these parts

according to the laws of nature. There is no probability that any one will ever enjoy the sight of any of these 'possibilities.'
"Now. suppose a summer tourist or superstitious mariner should catch sight of a giant basking shark, such as inhabits the north seas? These often measure more than thirty feet in length. It is frequently the case that they travel in rairs one following.

supposed monster resolved itself into a school of porpoises, one following the oth-

himself, and is liable to finish it before many moons, passed by, just a little too "See that young chap?" said the man

cured, if he went about it right." "If you've got a cure for that sort of thing, and will get it patented, you will be a millionaire before the year is out."

man nudged him with a question. "What is it, and where is it?" he asked.

"Then he went to his uncle and made a proposition to him. This proposition was to the effect that if the old gentleman would take an insurance policy on his life for \$30,000, and let him have \$10,000 on it for \$30,000, and let him have \$10,000 on it to go into business with, he would guarantee to pay the \$10,000 back, with the premium, and assume the policy himself, within five years. If he failed he would commit suicide, and the old man would make \$20,000, less the premiums, which, he thought, was a fair percentage on the investment. It looked to the uncle something like murder, but he thought there was no other way to cure him, so he took the young man up, and the experiment has now been in operation two years, and up to this time the young fellow has been as straight as a string, and is \$7,000 to the good, which he has set aside for emergencies, and is going ahead making just as much more as he can. The old man is so pleased about it that I don't believe he will ask the boy-he's nearly thirty-to fuffill ask the boy-he's nearly thirty-to fulfill the contract at the end of five years, in